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**CONFIDENTIAL ATTORNEY-CLIENT  
PRIVILEGED COMMUNICATION**

Date: MARCH 19, 2004

To: EXAMINER PEREZ-DAPLE  
U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Fax #: (703) 746-7239

From: FRANK C. NICHOLAS  
Fax #: (847) 424-2521

Client/Matter No.: AUS920010127US1 (9000/20)

# of Pages: 22  
(including cover sheet)

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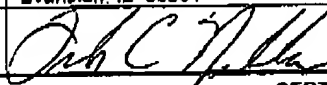
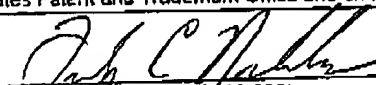
|   |                      |                           |
|---|----------------------|---------------------------|
| <h1>TRANSMITTAL FORM</h1> <p>(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)</p> | Attorney Docket No   | AUS920010127US1 (9000/20) |
|   | Application Number   | 09/843,064                |
|   | Filing Date          | APRIL 28, 2001            |
|   | First Named Inventor | GEORGE H. AHRENS          |
|   | Group Art Unit       | 2121                      |
|   | Examiner             | PEREZ DAPLE, AARON C.     |

| ENCLOSURES (check all that apply)  |   |   |
|--|---|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Response to Non-Final Office Action Dated December 24, 2003<br><input type="checkbox"/> After Final<br><input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/declaration(s)<br><input type="checkbox"/> Status Letter<br><input type="checkbox"/> Petition for Extension of Time Request (dup)<br><input type="checkbox"/> Express Abandonment Request<br><input type="checkbox"/> Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement, PTO-1449, art<br><input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Document(s)<br><input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts/ Incomplete Application | <input type="checkbox"/> Assignment Papers<br><input type="checkbox"/> Drawings<br><input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance Communication to Group<br><input type="checkbox"/> Petition Raising Slip (PTO/SB/69) and Accompanying Petition<br><input type="checkbox"/> To Convert a Provisional Application<br><input type="checkbox"/> Applicant Initiated Interview Request Form<br><input type="checkbox"/> Terminal Disclaimer<br><input type="checkbox"/> Express Abandonment Under 37 CFR 1.138<br><input type="checkbox"/> Request of Refund | <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences<br><input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Group (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief)<br><input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information<br><input type="checkbox"/> Post Card Receipt<br><input type="checkbox"/> Additional Enclosure(s) (please identify below)<br><input type="checkbox"/><br><input type="checkbox"/><br><input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. <u>09-0447</u> (IBM Corporation). A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.  |   |   |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> I hereby petition under 37 CFR § 1.136(a) for any extension of time required to ensure that this paper is timely filed. Please charge any associated fees which have not otherwise been paid to Deposit Account No. <u>09-0447</u> (IBM Corporation). A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.  |   |   |

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|                 |           |      | \$72            |           |

| SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT   |   |      |                |
|--|---|------|----------------|
| Firm or Individual name  | FRANK C. NICHOLAS<br>Registration No. 33,983<br>CARDINAL LAW GROUP<br>1603 Orrington Avenue, Suite 2000<br>Evanston, IL 60201 |      |                |
| Signature  |    | Date | March 19, 2004 |
| CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE   |   |      |                |
| I hereby certify that this correspondence is being transmitted by facsimile to (703) 746-7239 to the United States Patent and Trademark Office and on this date. |   |      | March 19, 2004 |
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